

An electrochemical impedance spectroscopic study of the electronic and ionic transport properties of LiCoO_2 cathode

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The storage behavior and process of the first delithiation-lithiation of LiCoO_2 cathode were investigated by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). The electronic and ionic transport properties of LiCoO_2 cathode along with variation of electrode potential were obtained in 1 mol·L⁻¹ $\text{LiPF}_6\text{:EC:DMC:DEC}$ electrolyte solution. It was found that after 9 h storage of the LiCoO_2 cathode in electrolyte solutions, a new arc appears in the medium frequency range in Nyquist plots of EIS, which increases with increasing the storage time. In the charge/discharge processes, the diameter of the new arc is reversibly changed with electrode potential. Such variation coincides well with the electrode potential dependence of electronic conductivity of the LiCoO_2 . Thus this new EIS feature is attributed to the change of electronic conductivity of Li_xCoO_2 during storage of the LiCoO_2 cathode in electrolyte solutions, as well as in processes of intercalation-deintercalation of lithium ions. It has been revealed that the reversible increase and decrease of the resistance of SEI film in charge-discharge processes can be also ascribed to the variation of electronic conductance of active materials of the LiCoO_2 cathode.

Li-ion batteries, LiCoO_2 , EIS, SEI film, electronic conductivity

LiCoO_2 is the most widely used cathode material today in commercially available Li-ion batteries, due to its high energy density, low self-discharge and good cycle life performance^[1–3]. In the past decade, the LiCoO_2 and, in general, its derivatives $\text{Li}_x\text{Ni}_{1-y}\text{Co}_y\text{O}_2$ have been studied extensively as cathode materials for Li-ion batteries. However, the electronic conductivity, electronic structure, and phase transitions of these cathode materials as well as the effect of these properties on electrochemical performance need to be investigated in detail^[4–7]. The literature data^[2,8–10] leave no doubts about the existence of a drastic change of the electronic conductivity occurring at early stage of lithium deintercalation, which may be caused by a transition from insulator to metal (or so called metal-insulator transition). In case of Li_xCoO_2

materials, such transition has been proposed to be responsible for the existence of a two-phase region between the lithium concentrations of $x = 0.95$ and $x = 0.75$, namely, Li_xCoO_2 is a semiconductor for $x > 0.95$, and is of metallic property for $x < 0.75$.

Electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS), is one of the most powerful means to analyze electrochemical processes occurring at electrode/electrolyte interfaces, and has been widely applied to the studies of electrochemical lithium intercalation into carbonaceous materials and transition metal oxides. The Nyquist plots

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of electrochemical lithium intercalation into LiCoO_2 -based electrodes commonly consist of three parts, namely, the first arc in the high-frequency range (HFA), the second arc in the medium frequency (MFA) range, and an incline line in the low frequency range. The HFA is generally attributed to the migration of lithium ions through a surface film (also called solid electrolyte interphase (SEI)) on LiCoO_2 , the MFA is ascribed to the charge transfer step, and the incline line in the low frequency range reflects the solid state diffusion process of lithium ions into LiCoO_2 that is often described as finite space or restricted diffusion^[11–15]. However, Croce and coworkers^[16–21] considered that the drastic change in resistance caused by the insulator to metal transition must be necessarily reflected by the impedance dispersion, namely, the Nyquist plots of LiCoO_2 in the delithiated state should involve a third arc relating to the electronic properties of the material. Therefore, the Nyquist plots of electrochemical lithium intercalation into LiCoO_2 -based electrode should include four parts, i.e. the first arc in the high-frequency range (HFA), the second arc in the medium-frequency range (MFA), the third arc in the low-frequency range (LFA), and an incline line in the very low frequency range. They proposed that the HFA is related to the migration of lithium ions through SEI film on the LiCoO_2 electrode, the MFA is attributed to the charge transfer step, the LFA is associated with the electronic properties of the material, and the incline line in the very low frequency range reflects the ionic diffusion. The experimental results of Croce et al. were nevertheless analogous to those previously reported by other authors, and from their Nyquist plots, the three obviously separated semicircles could not be observed. Moreover, the Nyquist plots of electrodes of the LiCoO_2 and its derivative materials $\text{Li}_x\text{Ni}_{1-x}\text{Co}_y\text{O}_2$, which they obtained at low potentials (below 3.7 V), were also analogous to previously reported results consisting of two parts: 1) an arc in the high-frequency range relating to migration of lithium ions through the SEI film, and 2) a sloping line in the low-frequency range that is generally attributed to the charge transfer process or the blocking characteristic of the electrode. Croce and coworkers^[16–21] attributed nevertheless the sloping line in low-frequency range to the electronic properties of the material. It is well known that the practical LiCoO_2 cathodes are composite materials, in which the active mass particles are bound to an aluminum current

collector with a polymeric binder such as polyvinylidene difluoride (PVdF). In addition, the composite electrodes have to contain a conductive additive, usually carbon particles (e.g. carbon black, graphite). The electrodes are usually prepared from slurry of the particles and the binder in an organic solvent, which is spread on the current collector, followed by drying. The final shape of the electrode is obtained by applying some pressure to the electrode. So, its electronic conductivity must be affected by the amount of conductive additive in the LiCoO_2 composite materials and by the contact between the LiCoO_2 cathode film and the aluminum current collector. As a consequence, variation of electronic conductivity of the active mass with electrode potential change can be observed only when the LiCoO_2 cathode contains enough amount of conductive additive, and has a good contact between the LiCoO_2 cathode film and the aluminum current collector. In addition, when the LiCoO_2 cathode contacts non-aqueous organic electrolytes, spontaneous reactions may take place at surface of the cathode and form a thick surface film on it. Along with the dissolution of lithium ions from LiCoO_2 electrochemical inactive Co_3O_4 may be formed^[22–24]. It can be deduced that the electronic conductivity of the LiCoO_2 cathode may be greatly affected by the above processes. Based on the above analysis, the LiCoO_2 cathode containing high weight percent of conductive additive and PVdF binder (10 wt%) was prepared in this study, and the LiCoO_2 cathode after drying was compressed by a rolling machine (between iron wheels) in order to obtain a good contact between the LiCoO_2 cathode film and the aluminum current collector. The storage behavior and process of first delithiation-lithiation of the LiCoO_2 cathode were investigated by EIS. The electronic and ionic transport properties of the LiCoO_2 cathode were obtained for the storage and the process of the first delithiation-lithiation in 1 mol·L⁻¹ $\text{LiPF}_6\text{-EC:DMC:DEC}$ electrolyte solutions.

1 Experiment

All experiments were carried out in a three-electrode glass cell with Li foils as both auxiliary and reference electrodes. The LiCoO_2 cathode composition was 80 weight percent (wt%) LiCoO_2 powder (B&M Ltd Co., Tianjin, China), 10 wt% polyvinylidene fluoride binder (Kynar FLEX 2801, Elf-atochem, USA), 3 wt% carbon black and 7 wt% graphite (Shanshan limited Co.

Shanghai, China), and an aluminum foil was used as current collector. The electrolyte was 1 mol·L⁻¹ LiPF₆-EC:DMC:DEC (volume ratio 1:1:1, Guotaihuarong Co., Zhangjiagang, China).

EIS measurements were carried out in an electrochemical work station (CHI660b, Chenhua Ltd Co., Shanghai, China). The amplitude of ac perturbation signal was 5 mV and the frequency range was from 10⁵ to 10⁻² Hz. The electrode was equilibrated for 1 h before EIS measurements. The impedance data were analyzed using Zview software.

2 Results and discussion

2.1 The common EIS features of LiCoO₂ cathode in the storage and in the first charge-discharge process

The Nyquist plots (Figure 1(a)) for the storage of LiCoO₂ cathode for 3 and 6 h in electrolyte solutions at open circuit potential, i.e. 3.5 V, display an arc in the high-frequency (HF) range and a slightly inclined line in the low-frequency (LF) region, similar to the results reported in refs. [11–21]. As previously described, the arc in the high-frequency range is related to the migration of lithium ions through SEI film, and the sloping line in the low-frequency range is generally attributed to the charge transfer process or the blocking characteristic of the electrode^[11–15]. However, Croce and coworkers attributed the sloping line in the low-frequency range to electronic properties of the material^[16–21].

It is found that after 9 h storage of the LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions, a new arc appears in the medium frequency range (MFA) in Nyquist plots. This new arc increases with the increase of the storage time,

but the EIS features remain unchanged till 42 h of storage (Figure 1(b)). The above unique phenomenon has not been reported so far in the literature to our knowledge. Because the electrode potential was set at 3.5 V in the storage of LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions, the appearance of the new arc must associate with the interaction between LiCoO₂ cathode and electrolyte solution species. This corresponds to our previous analysis that in the storage of LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solution, spontaneous reactions may take place at surface of the cathode resulting in a thick surface film, and the dissolution of lithium ions from LiCoO₂ leads to the formation of electrochemically inactive Co₃O₄. The above processes give rise to change of the electronic conductivity of LiCoO₂. Obviously, if the new arc is attributed to charge transfer step according to Croce et al., the above phenomenon could not be explained properly. Thus the new arc appearing in the medium frequency range in the Nyquist plots after 9 h storage of LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions should be assigned to electronic properties of the material, and the HFA, MFA, LFA appearing in the Nyquist plots in Figure 1(b) may be attributed to the migration of lithium ions through the SEI films, the electronic properties of the material and the charge transfer step, respectively.

Variations of impedance spectra of LiCoO₂ cathode after 42 h storage in electrolyte solution with increase of polarization potential (charge process) are shown in Figure 2. It can be seen that along with increase of electrode potential, the EIS features of LiCoO₂ cathode below 3.85 V in the charge process are analogous to those obtained after 9 h storage in electrolyte solution. On charging from 3.85 to 3.9 V, the diameter of the MFA

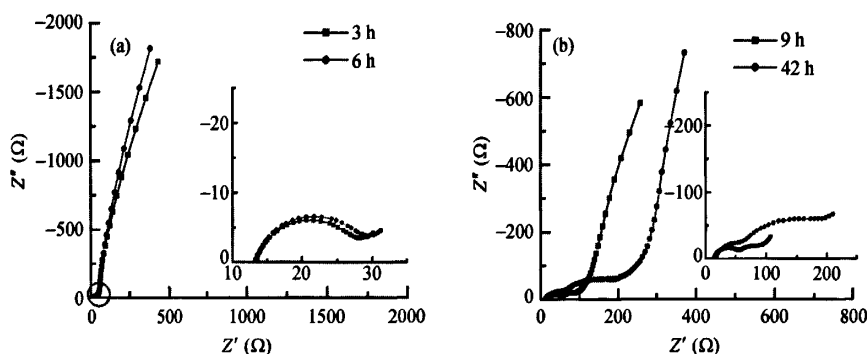


Figure 1 Variations of impedance spectra of LiCoO₂ cathode with the increase of the storage time in frequency range 10⁵–10⁻² Hz. The insets in (a) and (b) show the enlarged spectra over a 10⁵–50 Hz and 10⁴–0.5 Hz frequency range respectively.

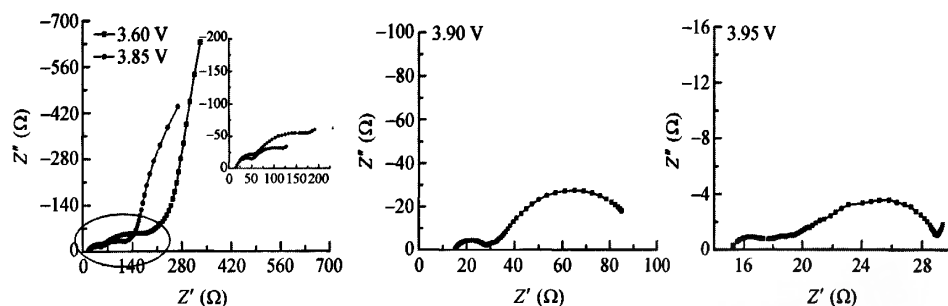


Figure 2 Variations of impedance spectra of LiCoO₂ cathode after 42 h storage in the electrolyte solution with the polarization potential in the first charge process in frequency range 10^5 – 10^{-2} Hz. The inset shows the enlarged spectra over a 10^5 –0.5 Hz frequency range.

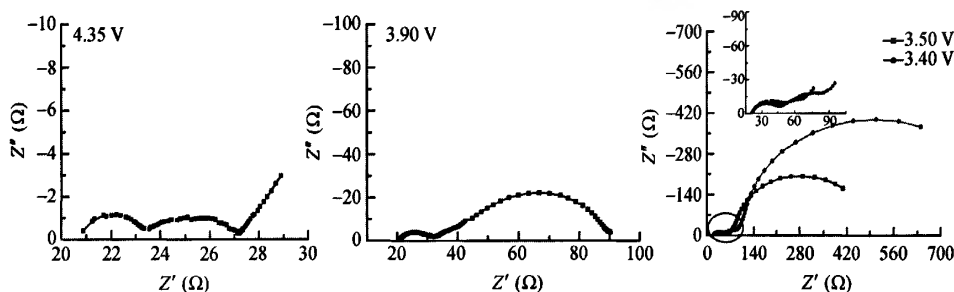


Figure 3 Variations of impedance spectra of LiCoO₂ cathode with the polarization potential in the first discharge process in frequency range 10^5 – 10^{-2} Hz. The inset shows the enlarged spectra over a 10^5 –1 Hz frequency range.

decreases rapidly. We could not observe clearly a semi-circle in the medium frequency range, the MFA is converted into a sloping line due to the large diameter of the HFA, and the inclined line related to charge transfer step in the low frequency range is bended toward the real axis forming a semicircle. At 3.95 V, a straight line reflecting the solid state diffusion of lithium ions into LiCoO₂ appears in the very low frequency range in the Nyquist plots. Thus the spectrum at 3.95 V yields an HFA related to SEI film, a second arc in the medium-frequency region associated with electronic conductivity of the LiCoO₂, and a third arc in the low-frequency range corresponding to charge transfer resistance coupled with double layer capacitance, followed by a straight line reflecting solid state Li-ion diffusion in the bulk of active mass in the very low frequency range. On further charging to 4.35 V, the EIS features of LiCoO₂ cathode remain analogous to those at 3.95 V in the charge process.

Figure 3 shows variations of impedance spectra of LiCoO₂ cathode with the decrease of electrode potential (discharge process). In the experiment, the electrode

potential was first swept linearly to 4.35 V at 20 μ V/s, and then impedance spectra were recorded along with the decrease of electrode potential. We could not observe three well-separated semicircles at 4.35 V in Nyquist plots due to overlapping of the HFA and the MFA when their diameters are too small. With the decrease of electrode potential, the EIS features of the LiCoO₂ cathode above 3.95 V are similar to those at 4.35 V; the EIS features of the LiCoO₂ cathode at 3.9 V in discharge process are analogous to those observed at 3.9 V in charge process; a sloping line appears in the medium frequency range and the straight line in the very low frequency range disappears. On further discharging to 3.4 V, the sloping line is converted to a semicircle, while the LFA is translated to a sloping line.

2.2 Equivalent circuit proposed in EIS analysis

According to experimental results obtained in this work, an equivalent circuit, as shown in Figure 4, is proposed to fit the impedance spectra in the storage and the first charge-discharge process. In this equivalent circuit, R_s represents the ohmic resistance; R_{SEI} and R_{ct} are resistances of the SEI film and the charge transfer reaction;

the capacitance of the SEI film, the capacitance of the double layer and the Warburg impedance are represented by the constant phase elements (CPE) Q_{SEI} , Q_{dl} and Q_{d} , respectively; the electronic resistance of the material and the associated capacitance used to characterize the electronic properties of the material are represented by R_e and the constant phase elements Q_e . The expression for the admittance response of the CPE (Q) is

$$Y=Y_0\omega^n\cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)+jY_0\omega^n\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right), \quad (1)$$

where ω is the angular frequency, j the imaginary unit. A CPE represents a resistor when $n = 0$, a capacitor with capacitance of C when $n = 1$, an inductor when $n = -1$, and a Warburg resistance when $n = 0.5$. In this study, Y_0 is considered to be a pseudo capacitance (pseudo- Y_0) when n lies between 0.5 and 1.

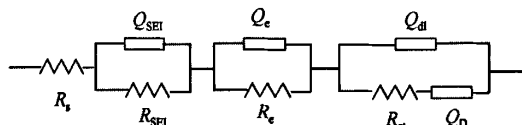


Figure 4 Equivalent circuit proposed for analysis of impedance spectra of LiCoO₂ cathode in the storage in electrolyte and the first charge-discharge process.

The simulated impedance spectra are compared with experimental EIS data at 3.5 V in the discharge process in Figure 5, and the parameter values are listed in Table 1. It can be seen that the proposed model can satisfactorily describe the experimental data. The relative standard deviation for all parameters fitted does not exceed 15%.

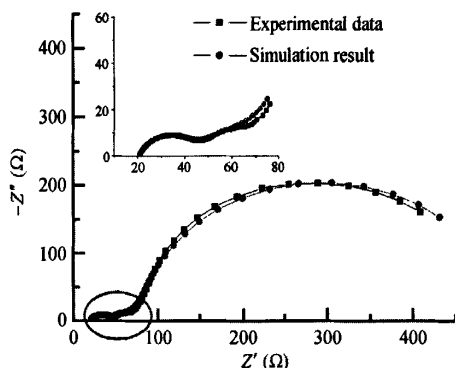


Figure 5 Comparison of EIS experimental data at 3.5 V in the discharge process with simulation results using equivalent circuit of Figure 4.

2.3 Storage behavior of the LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions

Figure 6 shows variations of EIS parameters obtained from fitting the experimental impedance spectra of the LiCoO₂ cathode with increasing the storage time at open circuit potential. It can be seen that with the increase of storage time, R_{SEI} and $Q_{\text{SEI}}-n$ keep invariable, while $Q_{\text{SEI}}-Y_0$ continuously increases till 30 h storage, and keeps invariable after 30 h storage. These results indicate that a highly passivating SEI film has been formed on surface of the LiCoO₂ cathode after 9 h storage, thus the aging process of the SEI film dominates the electrode surface chemistry between 9 and 30 h. It is well known that the electrolyte solutions may be unavoidably contaminated by trace water, and in the aging process of the SEI film H₂O may react with components of the SEI film such as organic carbonate lithium compounds ROCO₂Li to yield Li₂CO₃, leading to the dissolution of part of organic components of the SEI film and to the increase of capacitance of the SEI film.

Table 1 Equivalent circuit parameters obtained from simulation of EIS experimental data at 3.5 V in the discharge process

Parameter	Value	Uncertainty
R_s (Ω)	20.75	0.70549%
R_{SEI} (Ω)	24.47	4.085%
$Q_{\text{SEI}}-Y_0$ (F)	3.4614×10^{-5}	15.903%
$Q_{\text{SEI}}-n$	0.77337	2.2416%
R_e (Ω)	29.66	7.6092%
Q_e-Y_0 (F)	0.002062	13.736%
Q_e-n	0.69975	5.9917%
R_{ct} (Ω)	465.2	1.775%
$Q_{\text{dl}}-Y_0$ (F)	0.0084102	1.3786%
$Q_{\text{dl}}-n$	0.91124	0.94703%
$\chi^2=0.0012681$		

With the increase of storage time, R_e increases, Q_e-n keeps invariable, while Q_e-Y_0 decreases, implying that the electronic conductivity of the material is strongly affected by the storage time of the LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions. Because the electrode potential is always maintained at 3.5 V during storage of the LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solution, we may conclude that the electronic conductivity is affected not solely by the electrode potential, but the storage time of the LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions plays a major role. Wang et al. reported that the storage of LiCoO₂ in electrolyte solutions may lead to the dissolution of lithium ions from LiCoO₂ and the formation of electrochemically inactive Co₃O₄ compound. Therefore the variation of electronic

conductivity in storage of the LiCoO₂ cathode in electrolyte solutions may be ascribed to the degradation in structure of the LiCoO₂.

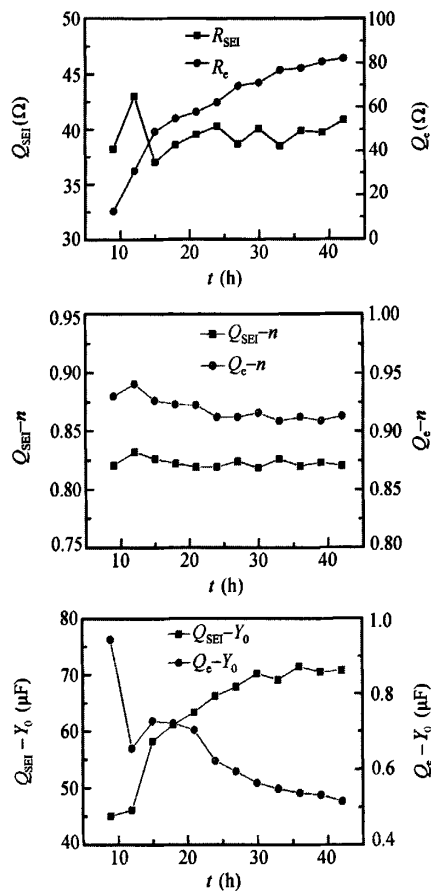


Figure 6 Variations of EIS parameters obtained from fitting the experimental impedance spectra of the LiCoO₂ cathode with the increase of storage time at open circuit potential (OCP, 3.5 V).

2.4 EIS studies of the LiCoO₂ cathode in the first charge-discharge process

Variations of R_{SEI} and R_e with increase and decrease of electrode potential obtained from fitting the experimental impedance spectra of the LiCoO₂ cathode in the first charge-discharge process are shown in Figures 7 and 8, respectively. It can be observed that with the increase of electrode potential in the charge process, R_{SEI} decreases slowly below 3.8 V, decreases rapidly between 3.8 and 3.95 V, and decreases slowly again at more positive potentials, and along with decrease of electrode potential in the discharge process, R_{SEI} increases slowly above 4.0 V, and increases rapidly below 4.0 V. The results demonstrate that the resistance of the SEI film increases and

decreases reversibly in the charge-discharge process. There are two possibilities that may lead to the reversible change in R_{SEI} : 1) the resistive SEI film is reversibly breakdown (or dissolution); and 2) the variation in surface electronic conductance of the LiCoO₂ cathode is caused by a phase transition of delithiation-lithiation. It can be seen from Figures 7 and 8 that the increase or decrease of R_{SEI} is always concomitant with the increase or decrease of R_e in the charge-discharge process, thus the reversible change of the R_{SEI} in charge-discharge process should be ascribed to the variation in surface electronic conductance of the LiCoO₂ cathode.

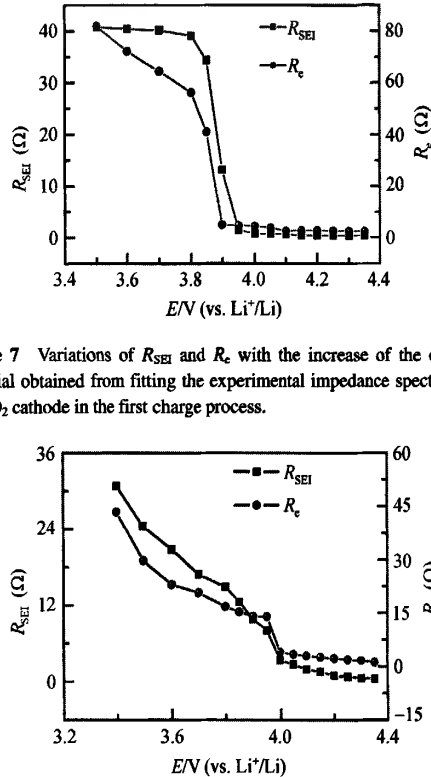


Figure 7 Variations of R_{SEI} and R_e with the increase of the electrode potential obtained from fitting the experimental impedance spectra of the LiCoO₂ cathode in the first charge process.

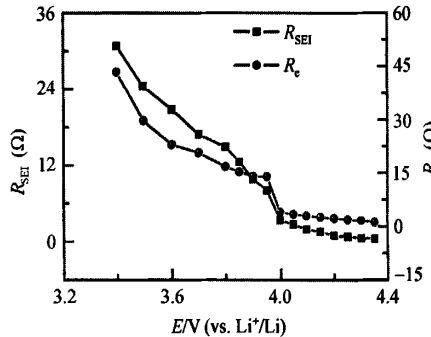


Figure 8 Variations of R_{SEI} and R_e with the decrease of the electrode potential obtained from fitting the experimental impedance spectra of the LiCoO₂ cathode in the first discharge process.

When electrode potential is increasing in the charge process, R_e decreases rapidly below 3.9 V, and remains almost invariable above 3.9 V. However, with the decrease of electrode potential in the discharge process, R_e keeps almost invariable above 4.0 V and increases rapidly below 4.0 V. These experimental results are in accordance with those reported by Shibubuya et al.^[4], i.e. the electronic conductivity of LiCoO₂ increases expo-

nentially with electrode potential in the region from 3.0 to 3.9 V, and the electronic conductivity is saturated above 3.9 V. The potential-conductivity profile shows reasonable reversibility when the potential scan is reversed at 4.0 V. Moreover, R_e is 82 Ω at 3.5 V in the charge process, which is between 2.5 and 5 Ω above 3.9 V, being also in accordance with the results reported by Shibuya et al. that the electronic conductivity of LiCoO_2 increases by one or two orders of magnitude.

The above results and discussions demonstrated that assigning the MFA in Nyquist plots of the LiCoO_2 cathode to electronic conductive properties of the material could explain the drastic change of the electronic conductivity occurring at the early stage of lithium deintercalation, which has further confirmed our hypothesis and analysis.

2.5 Discussion on the electronic properties of LiCoO_2

It is well known that^[25–27] LiCoO_2 is a p-type semiconductor (band-gap $E_g = 2.7$ eV), while Li_xCoO_2 exhibits a metal-like behavior for $x < 0.75$. Li_xCoO_2 is predicted to have partially filled valence bands for x lower than 1.0. For each Li removed from LiCoO_2 lattice, an electron hole is created within the valence band, namely,

$$p = 1 - x, \quad (2)$$

where p is the concentration of electron hole. We may expect that there will be sufficient holes, when x is below 0.75, to allow for a significant degree of screening. And in this regime, the hole state in the valence bands is likely to be delocalized, so that Li_xCoO_2 exhibits metallic-like electronic properties. This behavior is clearly observed in infrared absorption spectra where a strong absorption by holes occurs at low wave-numbers^[25]. Accordingly, the variation with potential of electronic conductivity of LiCoO_2 in the charge-discharge process may be divided into three regions: 1) the region in which Li_xCoO_2 has a semiconductor-like behavior; 2) the region in which the hole state in the valence bands is likely to be delocalized; 3) the region in which Li_xCoO_2 has a metal-like behavior.

The general expression for the electronic conductivity for p-type semiconductor is given by eq. (3).

$$\sigma = pq\mu, \quad (3)$$

where μ is carrier hole mobility, and q is electron charge.

The electronic resistance R can be written as

$$R = \frac{S}{\sigma l}, \quad (4)$$

where l is the thickness of the material, and S is the material's area.

The Langmuir insertion isotherm could be used for lithium-ion deintercalation from LiCoO_2 hosts by assuming that the interaction between the intercalated species and the host material and the interaction between the intercalated species are absent. Thus, the intercalation level, x , is given by^[28]

$$x/(1-x) = \exp[f(E-E_0)], \quad (5)$$

where $f = F/RT$ (F and R , Faraday and gas constant respectively; T , absolute temperature), E and E_0 define the electrode's real and standard potentials in the equilibrium.

When eq. (2) is introduced into eq. (5), the concentration of electron holes is given by

$$p = 1/\{1 + \exp[f(E-E_0)]\}. \quad (6)$$

Thus it can be obtained from eqs. (3), (4) and (6):

$$\ln R = \ln(S/q\mu l) + \ln\{1 + \exp[f(E-E_0)]\}. \quad (7)$$

When $\exp[f(E-E_0)]$ is small, as in the present case, $\ln\{1 + \exp[f(E-E_0)]\}$ could be linearized by using Taylor series expansion. As a consequence, eq. (7) can be written as

$$\ln R = \ln(2S/q\mu l) + \frac{1}{2}f(E-E_0). \quad (8)$$

It can be seen from Figure 8 that the value of $\ln R$ shows a linear dependence on electrode potential. Therefore, the variation of the electronic conductivity of LiCoO_2 in charge-discharge process with potential may be divided into three different parts: 1) when Li_xCoO_2 has a semiconductor-like behavior, the value of $\ln R_e$ shows a linear dependence on electrode potential; 2) when the hole state in the valence bands is likely to be delocalized, the value of $\ln R_e$ increases or decreases drastically with electrode potential; 3) when Li_xCoO_2 has a metal-like behavior, the value of $\ln R_e$ also exhibits a linear dependence on electrode potential.

Figure 9 displays the variations of the logarithm of R_e of LiCoO_2 with electrode potential. It can be observed that the experimental values of $\ln R_e$ show a linear dependence on electrode potential below 3.85 V and above 3.9 V, increasing drastically between 3.85 and 3.9 V in

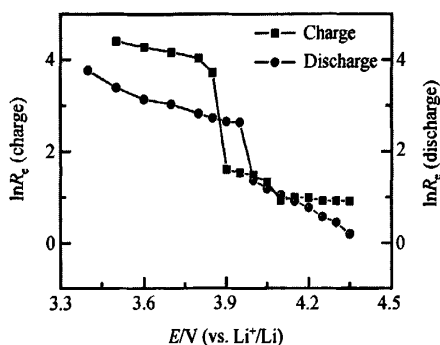


Figure 9 Variations of the logarithm of R_e with the increase and decrease of the electrode potential.

the charge process. However, the linear dependence of the experimental values of $\ln R_e$ on electrode potential is distorted, probably due to the complicated surface phenomena taking place in the first charge process. The experimental values of $\ln R_e$ below 3.95 V and above 4.0 V all show a good linear dependence on electrode potential and the $\ln R_e$ increases drastically between 3.95 and 4.0 V in the discharge process. The above results indicate that the dependence of the experimental values of $\ln R_e$ on electrode potential is in accord with theoretical prediction, which further confirms that the MFA in the

Nyquist plots should be attributed to the electronic properties of LiCoO_2 caused by delithiation.

3 Conclusions

The storage behavior and the first delithiation-lithiation process of LiCoO_2 cathode were investigated by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy. The electronic and ionic transport properties of the LiCoO_2 cathode with variation of electrode potential were obtained in $1 \text{ mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1} \text{ LiPF}_6\text{-EC:DMC:DEC}$ electrolyte solution. It was found that after 9 h storage of the LiCoO_2 cathode in the electrolyte solution, a new arc appears in the medium frequency range in Nyquist plots. This new arc increases with increase of the storage time. Moreover, the new arc reversibly increases and decreases with the variation of electrode potential. Such phenomenon corresponds to the variation of electronic conductivity of the LiCoO_2 with potential, and the new arc has been ascribed consequently to electronic properties of the LiCoO_2 cathode. It has also been revealed that the reversible increase and decrease of the resistance of SEI film in the charge-discharge process might be ascribed to the variation of the surface electronic conductance of the LiCoO_2 cathode.

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An electrochemical impedance spectroscopic study of the electronic and ionic transport properties of LiCoO₂ cathode

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1. 期刊论文 [LI Jinhui, ZHONG Shengwen, XIONG Daoling, CHEN Hao Synthesis and electrochemical performances of \$\text{LiCoO}_2\$ recycled from the incisors bound of Li-ion batteries -稀有金属 \(英文版\) 2009, 28 \(4\)](#)
 A new LiCoO_2 recovery technology for Li-ion batteries was studied in this paper. LiCoO_2 was peeled from the Al foil with dimethyl acetamide (DMAC), and then polyvinylidene fluoride (PVDF) and carbon powders in the active material were eliminated by high temperature. The new LiCoO_2 was obtained by calcining the mixture at 850°C for 12 h in air. The structure and morphology of the recycled powders and resulting samples were studied by XRD and SEM techniques, respectively. The layered structure of LiCoO_2 synthesized by adding Li_2CO_3 is the best, and it is found to have the best characteristics as a cathode material in terms of charge-discharge capacity and cycling $\text{mAh}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$.
2. 期刊论文 [ZHUANG QuanChao, XU JinMei, FAN XiaoYong, WEI GuoZhen, DONG QuanFeng, JIANG YanXia, HUANG Ling, SUN Shigang \$\text{LiCoO}_2\$ electrode/electrolyte interface of Li-ion batteries investigated by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy -中国科学B辑 \(英文版\) 2007, 50 \(6\)](#)

The storage behavior and the first delithiation of LiCoO_2 electrode in 1 mol/L $\text{LiPF}_6\text{-EC:DMC:DEC}$ electrolyte were investigated by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). It has found that, along with the increase of storage time, the thickness of SEI film increases, and some organic carbonate lithium compounds are formed due to spontaneous reactions occurring between the LiCoO_2 electrode and the electrolyte. When electrode potential is changed from 3.8 to 3.95 V, the reversible breakdown of the resistive SEI film occurs, which is attributed to the reversible dissolution of the SEI film component. With the increase of electrode potential, the thickness of SEI film increases rapidly above 4.2 V, due to overcharge reactions. The inductive loop observed in impedance spectra of the LiCoO_2 electrode in Li/LiCoO_2 cells is attributed to the formation of a $\text{Li}_{1-x}\text{CoO}_2/\text{LiCoO}_2$ concentration cell. Moreover, it has been demonstrated that the lithium-ion insertion-deinsertion in LiCoO_2 hosts can be well described by both Langmuir and

Frumkin insertion isotherms, and the symmetry factor of charge transfer has been evaluated at 0.5.

3. 外文期刊 [ZHUANG QuanChao, XU JinMei, FAN XiaoYong LiCoO2 electrode/electrolyte interface of Li-ion batteries investigated by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy](#)

The storage behavior and the first delithiation of LiCoO₂ electrode in 1 mol/L LiPF₆-EC:DMC:DEC electrolyte were investigated by electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS). It has found that, along with the increase of storage time, the thickness of SEI film increases, and some organic carbonate lithium compounds are formed due to spontaneous reactions occurring between the LiCoO₂ electrode and the electrolyte. When electrode potential is changed from 3.8 to 3.95 V, the reversible breakdown of the resistive SEI film occurs, which is attributed to the reversible dissolution of the SEI film component. With the increase of electrode potential, the thickness of SEI film increases rapidly above 4.2 V, due to overcharge reactions. The inductive loop observed in impedance spectra of the LiCoO₂ electrode in Li/LiCoO₂ cells is attributed to the formation of a Li_{1-x}CoO₂/LiCoO₂ concentration cell. Moreover, it has been demonstrated that the lithium-ion insertion-deinsertion in LiCoO₂ hosts can be well described by both Langmuir and Frumkin insertion isotherms, and the symmetry factor of charge transfer has been evaluated at 0.5.

4. 期刊论文 [姚晓林, 张承平, 陈春华, YAO Xiao-lin, ZHANG Cheng-pin, CHEN Chun-hua LiNi_xMn_{2-x}O₄对锂离子电池材料LiCoO₂的表面改性研究 -中国科学技术大学学报2009, 39\(4\)](#)

在锂离子电池正极材料LiCoO₂表面上修饰LiNi_xMn_{2-x}O₄来改善LiCoO₂在循环过程中的容量衰减问题, 对所产物进行了XRD、SEM表征, 并进行了充放电容量测试和交流阻抗测试。通过XRD和SEM, 发现LiNi_xMn_{2-x}O₄修饰没有改变材料的晶体结构。在电化学性能测试中, 由于包覆LiNi_xMn_{2-x}O₄可以减少材料与电解液的直接接触, 最大程度地减缓电极材料在电化学循环时结构遭到破坏, 在修饰量较小(3~5%)时, 该改性方法改善了LiCoO₂电极的循环性能, 69次循环后放电比容量没有衰减, 且大大地提高了平台效率。

5. 外文期刊 [Tournadre, F. Croguennec, L. Willmann, P. Delmas, C On the mechanism of the P2-Na_{0.70}CoO₂ -> O2-LiCoO₂ exchange reaction - Part II: an in situ X-ray diffraction study](#)

A model was proposed to describe the exchange reaction of sodium by lithium in P2 crystals, it was based first on the formation of nucleation centers and then on the growth of O2 domains in P2 crystals from these nucleation centers. This study has shown that depending on the ratio between the growing and nucleation speeds, O2, O6 or faulted structures are obtained and that this model allows a good analysis of the exchange process. XRD patterns simulation and their comparison with that of experimental O2-LiCoO₂ have shown that there was almost no defects in the O2-LiCoO₂ structure obtained by ion exchange in water. Therefore, this study has shown that the growth of the O2 domains in the P2-Na_{0.70}CoO₂ crystals is faster than the formation of nucleation centers. This P2-Na_{0.70}CoO₂->O2-LiCoO₂ exchange reaction was also studied in situ by X-ray diffraction; simulations of key XRD patterns by P2-O2 intergrowths were also achieved. It was shown, in good agreement with the simulations, that the growth of O2 domains was faster than the formation of the nucleation centers and kinetically activated by a P2-Na_{0.70}CoO₂ ->O2-LiCoO₂ phase transition. For those reasons, the P2-Na_{0.70}CoO₂ ->O2-LiCoO₂ exchange reaction in water leads to an O2 phase, with an almost ideal packing. (C) 2004 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

6. 期刊论文 [刘云建, 胡启阳, 李新海, 王志兴, 郭华军, 彭文杰, LIU Yun-jian, HU Qi-yang, LI Xin-hai, WANG Zhi-xing, GUO Hua-jun, PENG Wen-jie 锂离子电池边角料中直接回收合成LiCoO₂的性能 -中国有色金属学报](#)

2008, 18(12)

研究了一种从锂离子电池正极片的边角料中直接回收钴酸锂的新工艺。先用二甲基乙酰胺(DMAC)浸泡正极片, 将LiCoO₂从铝箔上剥离, 再在高温下除去正极中的聚偏氟乙烯(PVDF)和碳粉等杂质。然后添加不同的锂盐(Li₂CO₃、LiOH·H₂O和LiAc·2H₂O)调节回收粉末中的Li与Co的量为1.00, 再在850℃下焙烧12 h得到最终产品。用扫描电子显微镜(SEM)和X射线衍射(XRD)分析技术对得到的样品进行微观形貌与晶相结构的研究。研究结果表明, 添加Li₂CO₃合成的LiCoO₂层状结构发育最为完善, 其首次放电容量和循环性能也最好; 在3.0~4.3 V进行充放电, 首次放电容量达到160 mA·h/g, 经30次循环后, 仍有150 mA·h/g。

7. 期刊论文 [汤宏伟, 徐秋红, 常照荣, 李云平, 齐霞, TANG Hong-wei, XU Qiu-hong, CHANG Zhao-rong, LI Yun-ping, Qi Xia 锂离子电池正极材料LiCoO₂的制备 -电池2005, 35\(2\)](#)

将前驱体CoOOH(通过自制的连续式反应器, 采用湿法合成制备)和LiOH·H₂O, 通过固相反应法合成了结晶度好的LiCoO₂。差热-热重分析表明: 650℃就已经反应完全; X射线衍射结果表明: 合成的材料具有完美的层状结构; 扫描电镜显示: CoOOH在焙烧过程中, 边缘开始球化; IR分析说明: LiCoO₂中Co-O吸收峰向低波数方向偏移。

8. 外文期刊 [Ni, C. T., Fung, K. Z. Effect of chitosan on deposition of LiCoO₂ thin film for Li-ion batteries](#)

Deposition of LiCoO₂ thin film using chitosan-added precursor solution was found to be a cost-effective way to fabricate cathode for Li-ion thin film batteries. The structures and electrochemical performance of such LiCoO₂ cathode were characterized by using an X-ray diffractometer (XRD), FTIR and charge-discharge tests. After annealing at ca. 500 degrees C, the results of XRD showed that the LiCoO₂ gel started to crystallize and showed hexagonal phase with a space group of R3m. The enhanced stability of the precursor solution by the addition of chitosan is attributed to the complexation between metal ions and the -NH₂ groups of chitosan. The electrochemical behaviour for the deposited films calcined at 700 degrees C for 4 h was also characterized by charge-discharge test. The result revealed that the film deposited from chitosan-containing precursor solution possesses an initial discharge capacity of 129 mAh g⁻¹).

9. 期刊论文 [武雪峰, 王振波, 张明艳, WU Xue-feng, WANG Zhen-bo, ZHANG Ming-yan LiMn₂O₄/LiCoO₂共混对锂离子电池性能的影响 -电池工业2010, 15\(2\)](#)

将LiMn₂O₄和LiCoO₂在强力混合机中混合均匀, 获得均匀的共混正极材料。通过电化学测试研究了LiMn₂O₄/LiCoO₂两种电极材料混合比例对锂离子电池循环性能的影响, 并比较了LiMn₂O₄与LiCoO₂混合前后在常温和高温环境下循环性能的差异。实验结果表明: 在LiMn₂O₄与LiCoO₂共混后制得的锂离子电池在常温和高温环境下都具有良好的循环性能。

10. 期刊论文 [LIU Yun-jian, HU Qi-yang, LI Xin-hai, WANG Zhi-xing, GUO Hua-jun Recycle and synthesis of LiCoO₂ from incisors bound of Li-ion batteries -中国有色金属学会会刊\(英文版\)2006, 16\(4\)](#)

A new LiCoO₂ recovery technology of Li-ion battery was studied. LiCoO₂ was initially separated from the Al foil with dimethyl acetamide(DMAC), and then the polyvinylidene fluoride(PVDF) and carbon powders in the active material were eliminated by high

temperature calcining. The content of the elements in the recovered powder was analyzed. The structure and morphology of the resulted samples were observed by XRD and SEM. Then the Li_2CO_3 was added in the recycled powder to adjust the Li/Co molar ratio to 1. The new LiCoO_2 was synthesized by calcining at $850\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for 12 h in air. The well-crystallized single phase LiCoO_2 without Co_3O_4 phase was obtained. The recycle-synthesized LiCoO_2 powders have good characteristics as a cathode active material in terms of charge-discharge capacity and cycling performance.

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